

## CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method of storing a bicycle rack having a tongue adapted to be inserted into a class III type hitch receiver:

- 5 (a) providing a [static support structure] wall having interior vertical studs;
- (b) providing a class III type hitch receiver assembly, including a class III type hitch receiver and an attachment plate having a fastener hole; [ , said assembly supported by
- 10 said static support structure];
- (c) aligning said hitch receiver assembly with one of said interior vertical studs so that said fastener hole is aligned to said stud and said
- 15 class III type hitch receiver is aligned to said stud, and bolting said hitch receiver assembly to said stud by a bolt extending through said fastener hole;
- (d) inserting said tongue of said bicycle rack,
- 20 into said class III type hitch receiver of said class III type hitch assembly.

Cancel claims 2-5.

- 25 6. (currently amended) The method of claim [5] 1, wherein said bicycle rack is holding a [is a bicycle rack and said article is a] bicycle at the time step (d) is performed.

7. (original) The method of claim 1, wherein said
- 30 tongue of said rack is at first inserted into a class III type hitch receiver of a vehicle, and further including the step of

first removing said tongue of said rack from said class III hitch receiver of said vehicle.

Cancel claim 8.

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9. (original) A hitch rack retaining device, comprising:

(a) a supporting structure having a mass of less than 300 Kg; and

10 (b) a class III type hitch receiver supported by said supporting structure.

10. (currently amended) The device of claim 9, further [including] being supported by a set of wheels adapted to facilitate the movement of the device from one location to another.

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